

REMARKS

- Claims 1 - 4, 6, 8 and 9 are rejected
- Claim 1 is currently amended
- Claims 10-20 are allowed

§ 103 Rejections

Claims 1 - 4, 6, and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Watari* in view of *Liberkowski*, U.S. Patent No. 5,691,209 ('*Liberkowski*'); and claim 9 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Watari* in view of *Liberkowski*, in further view of *Bombal et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 6,141,782 ('*Bombal*').

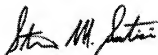
Page 9 of Office Action dated March 6, 2008 indicates that *Watari*, *Liberkowski*, and *Bombal*, do not teach, suggest, or otherwise render obvious the following limitations from previously amended claim 10: a processor within the IC, a plurality of input lines coupled to the internally positioned IC and a plurality of output lines coupled to the internally positioned IC. Hence, only in the interest in expediting allowance, the limitations of previously amended claim 10 are incorporated in currently amended claim 1. Claims 2 - 4, 6, 8 and 9 ultimately depend from claim 1 and therefore include all the limitations of claim 1. Consequently Applicants assert that claims 2 - 4, 6, 8 and 9 are allowable for at least the same reason as claim 1.

Applicants believe the application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections to claims 1 - 4, 6, 8 and 9.

Conclusion

Applicants submit that all the pending claims are in allowable condition. It is also believed that no fees are due in conjunction with the amendment. However, if an Extension of Time is required to make this response timely, please accept this sentence as such a request and charge Deposit Account No. 04-1696 the requisite fee. If any other fees are required, please similarly charge Deposit Account No. 04-1696. Applicants encourage the Examiner to telephone Applicants' attorney should any issues remain.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven M. Santisi". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Steven" and last name "Santisi" being more legible than the middle initial "M.".

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